

Ted Stevens

Assistant Majority Leader



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Contact: Press Office
202-224-5209

FEDERAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM FORUM SET

The second of five forums on the federal retirement system is scheduled for 1 p.m. February 16 in Room SD-106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Sponsored by the Senate Subcommittee on Civil Service, Post Office and General Services, which is chaired by Senator Stevens, the forums bring together pension and investment experts, Congressional staff and other interested persons. The participants discuss issues involved in developing a pension program for federal employees hired after January 1 this year.

Discussions at the forums cover a broad range of retirement system provisions, including plan types, benefit levels and funding. The purpose of the forums is to clarify the issues prior to Congressional hearings. Design and analysis of program options would be addressed during Congressional hearings.

The forum next week will cover employer retirement income systems. A panel discussion, with experts from a major union, a corporation and a consulting firm, will focus on vesting, portability, retirement ages, disability and survivor benefits, indexation, roles of employers and individuals, and flexibility.

Additional topics next week will include the development of the retirement income system and a discussion of New York State's experience in designing new retirement systems.

Three more forums are planned later this year. A December forum, the first in the series, focused on economic security programs.

On April 17 the topic will be employer retirement programs and Social Security. On May 30, pension funding, investment and administrative issues will be the topic. The final forum on July 10 will cover program options *and analysis.*

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